

for being named a 2013 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, *Business Record*.

Since 2000, *Business Record* has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2013 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Desmund Adams is the epitome of an "American success story." Once a high school dropout and later a graduate of Drake University Law School, Desmond has gone on to live his life as an example of what is possible through hard work and dedication. In 2005, he started his own executive search firm, AdamsDouglas, and today is accountable for more than half of gross revenues for the company. Desmond resides in Clive, Iowa with his wife Dr. Shondalette Adams and their two sons, Khalil Desmond Adams and Solomon Douglas Adams. Desmond's selection as a Forty Under 40 honoree by *Business Record* reflects what is possible when Iowa work ethic intersects with leadership and character.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Desmond in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Adams for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Desmond on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at *Business Record* for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

IN HONOR OF K9 VETERANS DAY

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of K9 Veteran's Day. March 13, 1942 is the official birthday of the United States K9 Corps and many states across the country, including Pennsylvania, have officially recognized this date as K9 Veterans Day. For decades, military and police working dogs have served alongside our brave troops and law enforcement officers. They have sacrificed and lost their lives in the line of duty, and they deserve our respect and gratitude. It is important that we take a moment to remember those canines that have served diligently to protect lives.

HONORING SHEN YUN PERFORMING ARTS

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Shen Yun Performing Arts'

upcoming visit to the tri-state area and the company's significant contributions to the advancement of the arts in the Philadelphia area.

Reviving the essence of 5000 years of Chinese culture, Shen Yun is a world-class dance company that has performed in cities across the United States and abroad. The company's performers practice the Falun Dafa spiritual discipline and are hosted by local Falun Dafa Associations around the world. Founded in 2006, Shen Yun has graced many of the world's greatest stages in its short tenure, including Lincoln Center in New York City, The Kennedy Center in D.C., Royal Festival Hall in London, and Le Palais de Congrès in Paris.

Philadelphia has been blessed with a vibrant and active Chinese community, one that has been bettered through the contributions of Shen Yun. I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues help me in honoring Shen Yun and their upcoming trip to the Philadelphia area. I am thrilled that my community will be able to enjoy the beauty of this dance company in the upcoming months.

TRIBUTE TO LAWRENCE CUNNINGHAM

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Lawrence Cunningham for being named a 2013 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, *Business Record*.

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Lawrence Cunningham is the Director of Business Development at Catchfire Media, where he is responsible for adding \$2 million a year in new business. Outside of his career, Mr. Cunningham is heavily involved with a number of young professional organizations across the state. Lawrence resides in Urbandale with his wife Brandy and their two-year-old son Asher. In both facets of his life, Lawrence is an example of hard work and service that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Lawrence in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Mr. Cunningham for utilizing his talents to better both his community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Lawrence on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at *Business Record* for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

THE STANDARD DATA ACT OF 2013

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, today I join my colleague Mr. DOGGETT of Texas, to introduce the Standard Data and Technology Advancement Act of 2013, or the "Standard DATA Act." This legislation follows legislation previously introduced and championed by former Congressman Geoff Davis during his time as the Committee on Ways and Means Human Resources Subcommittee Chairman.

The Standard DATA Act builds on the progress that has been made to establish consistent requirements for the electronic content and format of data used in the administration of key human services programs authorized by the Social Security Act.

Human services programs serve overlapping populations and should, from an information technology standpoint, operate consistently within and across programs. By continuing the process of data standardization and the use of common reporting mechanisms, this bill will help achieve three goals: better prevent and identify fraud and abuse; increase the efficiency of administrative resources to serve eligible beneficiaries; and produce program savings for U.S. taxpayers.

This bill continues the efforts begun in the bipartisan, bicameral Child and Family Services Extension and Enhancement Act of 2011, which was the first effort at requiring a human services program to implement standard data elements and reporting. President Obama signed that bill into law on September 30, 2011.

The Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, signed by the President in February 2012, applied similar data standards provisions to unemployment insurance and the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program.

This program-by-program approach has been useful, but the ultimate goal is to work across programs. The legislation being introduced today provides a path forward to cover additional programs under the jurisdiction of the Human Resources subcommittee, with the intention of moving to create a complete system of program information exchange.

As a member of the Human Resources subcommittee I commend these efforts and recognize the data provisions enacted in P.L. 112-96 are designed to be a catalyst for continued action.

Consistent with the bipartisan approach developed and maintained by former Subcommittee Chairman Geoff Davis and Ranking Member LLOYD DOGGETT, today I introduce this bill with the full support of the Human Resources Subcommittee, from both sides of the aisle.

Improved data standards will help increase the efficiency of data exchanges to use and reuse data within and across programs. That will allow States to automate the exchange of claimant data on work and benefit receipt, reducing delays and minimizing improper payments. It will also help to automate application forms by pre-populating them with reliable and verified data, which can reduce the manual burden on staff and allow them more time to engage beneficiaries, all while reducing error.